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Delivered Date: 10/24/2008 10:57 AM EDT

Subject: Re: letter to Editor re. CADs

oh fun.

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10/24/2008 10:48 AM

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cc	
Subject	letter to Editor re. CADs

fyi

LETTER: PCB removal threatens air quality

October 24, 2008 6:00 AM

PCB removal threatens

air quality

I am responding to the article in Sunday's paper on Oct. 19 entitled, "New technology may speed PCB cleanup." I realize that both the Environmental Protection Agency and city are looking at alternate ways that are more cost-efficient than what is currently in place, but let me address the proposal.

Currently, as stated, when the dredging operation takes place, toxic sediment is sucked off the bottom of the harbor, sorted and filtered. The contaminated dewatered material is shipped by rail to a PCB disposal facility in Michigan. Now my concern is this: The sediment now is removed under water through pipes. Already with that method, there is a certain amount of volatilization going on whereby some of the disturbed PCB material is becoming airborne, thus putting people at risk with these amounts that can accumulate in humans over time.

Now with the proposed method of removal placing the PCB-contaminated material in underwater disposal holes, the sediment, I learned at the last EPA meeting, is brought up and above the water surface before being brought to the area of underwater disposal. In doing so, all of this highly contaminated material is contributing to an exorbitant amount of airborne toxic air quality above and beyond the current method.

I was hoping that at least the sediment could be sucked off the bottom of the harbor and channeled into the contamination aquatic disposal (CAD) cell or "hole in the bottom of the sea."

Please be aware that toxic air travels a great distance, so all in all, for the sake of saving some money, safety must be considered first.

KAREN A. VILANDRY

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